

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



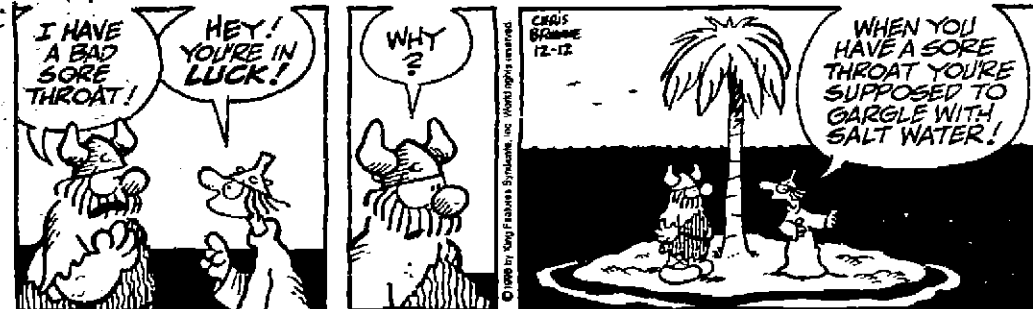
ANDY CAPP



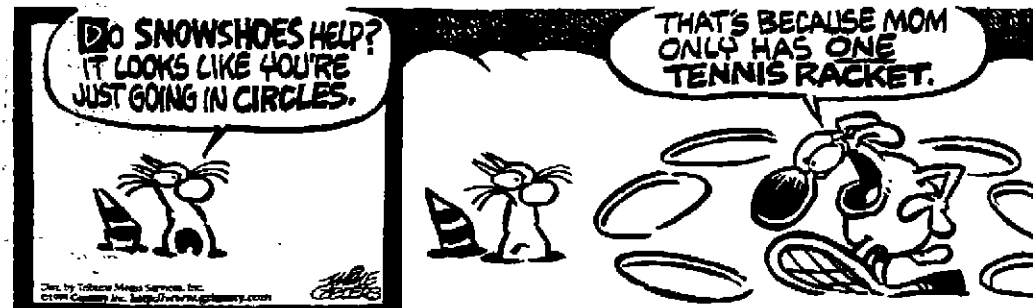
ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



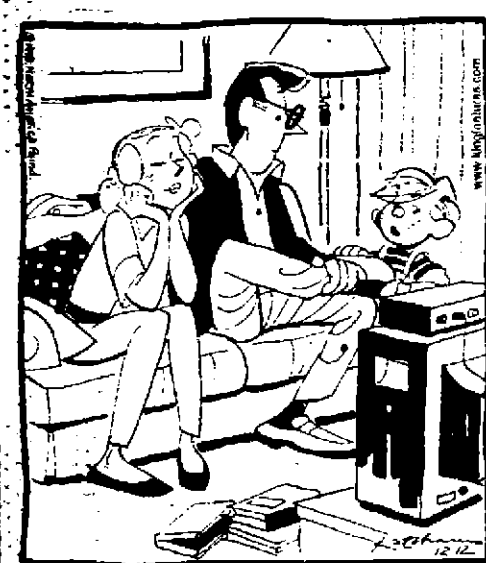
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Jazz singer Joe Williams is 80. TV host Bob Barker is 75. Former New York City Mayor Edward Koch is 74. Singer Connie Francis is 60. Singer Dionne Warwick is 58. Jazz musician Grover Washington Jr. is 55. Rock singer-musician Dickie Betts (The Allman Brothers) is 55. Actor Wings Hauser is 51. Gymnast-turned-actress Cathy Rigby is 46. Singer-musician Sheila E. is 39. Actress Jennifer Connelly is 28.

I NEED HELP



Alton Dorsey is visited by the Beer Fairy.

SCRABBLE

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T	S	A	O	F	R	G
D	N	L	N	E	I	G
W	A	E	E	E	S	G
A	A	Y	W	E	K	C

PAR SCORE 110-120
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 12-12-98 © 1998, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Ending In "INE"

DRPMJGDAXVSQNKI
FDAXVGTQOMJHFC
YWURPENLEJHFSDB
ZEXENNVTNRQHOMK
IHNINUFEEIEDBZ
YIPIWIENNNNLVTR
MLQOFNLIEIICNL
AKIHIEITRNDBLVNF
DCALZUDAIRXRCOI
WVEUOSCMRARQUEB
OFNRMKJIBSHFETD

Friday's unlisted clue: ENVELOPE

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Saturday's unlisted clue hint: SLOPE

Airline	Canine	Genuine	Sardine
Alpine	Decline	Marine	Shine
Bovine	Define	Mine	Turbine
Brine	Feline	Routine	

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Sunday, Dec. 13, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Although you can predict what the arguments are, you cannot prevent them from happening.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) If you think about your actions before beginning them.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Share your thoughts and ideas with other people today.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A close friend or family member has some problems with your behavior.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You feel a surge of motivation coming on; soon you will be ready to outperform anyone.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Everyone is convinced of your success; you move with an air of confidence and well-being.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Have as much fun as you can, but keep records of all that you do.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) There are subtle undercurrents in the air, and you are not quite able to interpret them.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your behavior is strictly ethical, and your skill is unmatched.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Changes must be made, and you can get them started.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You are thrilled at the positive responses to your ideas, but you cannot find time to deal with the negatives.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You've done the background check and the legwork; now follow your instincts.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

South's Stayman inquiry and subsequent rebid revealed a poor hand with five hearts and four spades. West therefore led a trump, not wishing to break any side suits for South. South took both of dummy's trumps, cashed the diamond ace, and ruffed a diamond. Next, he played a trump, hoping to split the suit 3-3. Unfortunately, trumps were 4-2, and South lost control. Sadly, he drew the last trump and led a club, conceding an embarrassing one down (three diamonds and the club ace). How does South make the game? Cashing dummy's high trumps and leading clubs won't work. East signals high-low, and West ducks once and wins the next club. East then enjoys a club ruff, and South loses four tricks. To make the game, South must play a low (!) diamond from dummy after cashing dummy's high trumps. If the defense wins and continues the suit, South ruffs and draws trumps. Now it's safe to knock out the club ace, and South loses only three tricks. What if the defenders shift to a spade after winning the first club? It won't matter. South can manage to lose only one spade trick, holding his total losses to a club, a diamond and a spade.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1031

ACROSS

1 Steamed dishes
8 Leader in waiting
15 Dryness
16 Tapenade ingredient
17 Mustard, for one
18 Unbegotten
19 S. S. Kresge, now
20 Meteorological phenomenon
22 Florentine of films
23 Together, so to speak
24 It may be tiered
25 Xenophobe's dread
26 1998 Final Four team

DOWN

27 Ruth's 2.213
28 Cards, e.g.
29 Jumbles
30 Rest
32 Anatomical cul-de-sac
34 Netanyahu's predecessor
37 Canadian peninsula
41 Proceed against
43 Shelf
46 God's little acre?
47 Some hallucinogens
48 — ease
49 "Yanks" star Eichhorn
50 Victoria Island explorer and family
51 Canbou locale

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

M	E	N	D	F	E	N	C	E	S	T	A	R	B	O	R	O	K	I	E	Y	E	A	R	K	O	L	A	S	A	B	E	R	S	A	M	S	E	W	A	N	E	T	E	S	F	A	T	V	A	N	W	A	Y	I	N	A	P	R	I	L	N	A	D	E	R	V	I	L	L	A	I	N	E	R	E	L	E	E	S	I	E	N	A	I	N	S	O	G	N	S	L	I	N	G	E	R	C	A	E	N	I	N	S	T	A	M	A	T	I	C	A	N	S	E	S	T	E	A	M	I	R	O	N	S
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15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61

30 Like some reports
31 "Once — Honeymoon"
32 Empty
33 Former White House nickname
34 The one that got away
35 Poet Thomas et al.
36 Tom Joad, e.g.
37 9-Down's burden

42 Put to the test
43 Certain light switch
44 "The Graduate" role
45 Casts
46 Union agreement?
47 One of Hamlet's options
48 Grey Cup grp
49 Lincoln center?

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-800-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS.